

Moreen Donahue

Sr. Vice President, Patient Care Services & Chief Nurse Executive

November 17, 2009

Honorable Christopher J. Dodd 30 Lewis Street, Suite 101 Hartford, Connecticut 06103

Dear Senator Dodd:

I am writing this letter to request your support through the Labor-HHS-Education Senate Appropriations Bill for the CT ST University System initiative to address the shortage of nursing faculty through a Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) Program.

This system initiative complements previous congressionally supported work at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) and Western CT State University (WCSU) related to nursing education.

This partnership to develop a joint Doctorate in Nursing Education Program could not be more timely. Connecticut's nursing shortage is well documented and our state's ranking as 49th out of 50 states in producing registered nurses emphasizes the need for such programs to address the crisis. It is predicted that by the year 2020 Connecticut could realize a short fall of about 22,000 registered nurses.

Nursing faculty are essential to our health care system. Nurses are the largest providers of health care in our state, yet Connecticut produces only 19 registered nurses per 100,000 residents, well below the national average of 31 per 100,000. Although nursing programs in Connecticut have expanded their enrollment by 5% between 2006 and 2007, the number of qualified applicants who were denied admission increased by 6%. This proposed program is estimated to provided a net gain of about 16 new faculty by May 2014.

Preparing nurses at the doctoral level will provide Connecticut and surrounding regions with a much needed source of nurse educators.

I urge you to support this Connecticut State University System initiative.

Sincerely,

Moreen Donahue, DNP, RN, NEA-BC

Senior Vice President, Patient Care Services &

Chief Nurse Executive



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Lucille Janatka President and Chief Executive Officer

November 11, 2009

435 Lewis Avenue Meriden, Connecticut 06451 203.694.8202

The Honorable Christopher Dodd United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Dodd:

In my capacity as President and CEO of MidState Medical Center, I am writing to express my strongest support for the Connecticut State University System (CSUS) *Initiative to Address the Shortage of Nursing Faculty: A Collaborative Doctoral Program.* As the proposal indicates, the current and foreseen shortages of nurses in Connecticut can only be addressed fully by ensuring that there is a corresponding increase in the number of doctorally prepared faculty.

The proposed program is highly innovative in the way it addresses our needs. It will be one of the only programs of its kind in the country, helping to fill the void that is increasingly being recognized in the area of nursing education research and its connection to nursing practice. At a time when the profession is becoming increasingly sophisticated by new technologies and scientific advances, our models for health care delivery are dependent on the ability of those in the frontline to use these new systems and work with these technologies. We also need to increase our attention to the diversity of needs in our patients from the standpoint of demographics and the levels of care needed. Critical in responding to these conditions is the creation of highly dynamic workforce in nursing education to work at our colleges and universities and to take education leadership positions at our hospitals other healthcare settings.

The proposed Ed.D. program makes it possible for young professionals who are developing the necessary clinical expertise in the field to have a realistic, accessible and highly specialized pathway in nursing education. The practice of the nursing profession needs to be infused with educational components that will help our currently employed nurses stay current and pursue further degrees that strengthen the workforce pipeline. This is a critical requirement for ensuring that there is a continuous enhancement of health care outcomes. Finally, two of our state universities are sharing expertise and capacity to create a doctoral program that would not be possible at either of them individually.

l urge you to give full support for this important project by providing a total of \$750,000 of congressional allocation support in fiscal year 2011. Thank you for your leadership in addressing our State's nursing workforce needs.

Sincerely,

Lucille A. Janatka

President & CEO



FE3 0 1 2010 GRADUATE OFFICE

1450 Chapel Street New Haven, Connecticut 06511 Mary Kuncas, RN, MS Vice President, Patient Services Email: mkuncas@srhs.org (203) 783-4032 Fax# (203) 867-5502

January 19, 2010

Mr. Frank W Ridley
Board of Governors of Higher Education
61 Woodland Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06015

Dear Mr. Ridley,

This letter is to convey my wholehearted support of the Connecticut State University System (CSUS) collaborative Ed.D in Nursing program between Southern and Western Connecticut State Universities Saint Raphael's is a 511 bed teaching hospital that is always looking for qualified nurses to provide care to our patients in all types of settings. Our need for nurses grows annually as patient requirements become more intense and our services grow. Last year we hired over 130 full time Registered Nurses, next year our projections call for a similar number of new hires.

One of the major barriers to ensuring an adequate supply of Registered Nurses is the lack of faculty in the schools of nursing. This new program will provide an opportunity for working nurses to return to school to prepare for a career in nursing education. This program stands out as a more affordable option for nurses who live and work in the New Haven community to continue their education. I believe that the collaborative effort that Southern and Western Connecticut have taken in the development of this program demonstrates an innovative approach to expanding opportunities in a time of economic distress.

I urge you to give your full support to these universities as they work to fill the current and future need for nurses.

Sincerely, May Luxan

Mary Kuncas, RN, MS Vice President, Patient Services SRHS

cc: file

Cesazina Thompson, PhD, RN
Aide to the Dean
School of Graduate Studies & Professor, Dept. of Nursing
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06515



November 25, 2009

The Honorable Christopher Dodd, US Senator United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Dodd:

On behalf of Yale-New Haven Hospital (YNHH), I would like to express our support of the Connecticut State University System's (CSUS) effort to secure funding to address the shortage of nursing faculty through a Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D) program. The initiative complements previous congressionally supported work to grow baccalaureate and master level programs in nursing education.

Available data for Connecticut projects that 15 percent of all nursing faculty will retire in three to five years. The initiative aims to prepare up to 75 new faculty over ten years to teach nursing students and help offset the anticipated shortfall of over 20,000 nurses in 2020. One of the major obstacles to expanding the workforce of trained nurses is the shortage of nurse educators. CSUS seeks support to prepare nurse educators to teach in universities and community colleges by requesting \$750,000 through the 2010 Labor-HHS-Education Senate Appropriations Bill, Health Resources Services Administration or Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education Account.

YNHH appreciates your support and assistance in helping CSUS meet the goal of preparing nurse educators to teach at nursing schools throughout the state. The new nursing faculty will help ensure that there will be sufficient well-trained, highly-skilled, and motivated nursing staff to continue to provide the quality of medical care that YNHH and other hospitals in the state give to their patients.

As one of the major health systems in the state of Connecticut, YNHH strongly supports all initiatives to address the shortage of nurses in the state.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this request.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Myatt Senior Vice President Human Resources

KAM:mim



80 SEYMOUR STREET P.O. BOX 5037 HARTFORD, CT 06102-5037 860/545-5000

November 23, 2009

Cesarina Thompson, PhD, RN
Aide to the Dean
School of Graduate Studies &
Professor, Department of Nursing
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent St
New Haven, CT 06515

Dear Dr. Thompson:

It is my pleasure to offer my strong support to The Connecticut State University System in their efforts to develop a system initiative to address the shortage of nursing faculty through a Doctorate in Nursing Education program. This collaborative effort between Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University is sure to contribute toward expanding the capacity of nursing faculty in our state.

The Nursing profession is faced with a compounding challenge, a shortage of bedside nursing staff and an impending shortage of academia to teach future nurses. The initiative proposed by the University System will address both needs for the State of Connecticut and the region.

Nursing plays a pivotal role in healthcare, and professional development is an expectation in today's increasingly complex and technologically advanced care delivery system. In order to ensure skilled, competent, and confident nurse graduates, we must address the nurse faculty shortage and focus on expanding the pool of doctorally prepared nurse educators.

A program of study dedicated to this specific academic preparation of faculty at the doctoral level will provide added depth and breadth in the State of Connecticut. It will also enable individuals interested in pursuing this academic track to do so in a framework of study that assures comprehensive preparation of the academic faculty role.

In closing, as a nurse leader, I support this establishment of a collaborate Doctoral Program.

Sincerely,

Linda Berger Spivack, RN, MSN V Vice President, Patient Care Services

LBS:am

Mr. Frank W. Ridley, Chair Board of Governors of Higher Education 61 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06015

Dear Mr. Ridley:

As a graduate of Western Connecticut State University and Vice President of Patient Care Services at Griffin Hospital, I am writing to communicate my full support for the Connecticut State University System collaborative Ed.D. in Nursing program between Southern and Western Connecticut State Universities. It is vital that we address the shortage of nursing faculty in our colleges and universities in Connecticut and across the United States.

My understanding of the proposed program makes it possible for nursing professionals to continue to develop their educational and administrative skills in an advance program. Most importantly, the Ed.D program will allow for research and evaluation as it applies to nursing sensitive indicators for evidence based outcomes in patient care. This practice supports further growth of the importance of the nursing professional at the bedside, complemented by the administrative education in leadership.

This proposed program is highly innovative and the only program of its kind that addresses the void that is being recognized across the healthcare continuum. At a time when the profession is becoming increasingly sophisticated by new technologies and scientific advances, our models for healthcare delivery is dependent on the ability of those on the frontline to use these new systems and work with these new technologies. It is with advance nursing education that the collaboration and transformation of healthcare delivery may become a reality.

I encourage you to give full support for this program. Thank you for your position of leadership in addressing our State's nursing workforce needs.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Stumpo, RN, BSN, MPA Vice President, Patient Care Services



377 RESEARCH PARKWAY SUITE 2D MERIDEN, CT 06450-7160 (203) 238-1207 FAX (203) 238-3437

November 16, 2009

Cesarina Thompson PhD RN
Aide to the Dean
School of Graduate Studies and Professor, Department of Nursing
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06615

Dear Dr. Thompson,

This letter is written to support the Connecticut State University System's (CSUS) creation of a Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) program. Current nursing education practice requires that course work be taught by a nurse one level above their students' intended degree level. Without nursing faculty prepared at the doctoral level, the education of nurses in Connecticut will be jeopardized and the predicted nursing shortage will be exacerbated.

It has been well documented for more than a decade that Connecticut will experience a shortage of 11,000 nurses by 2010 and 22,400 by 2020. Further, according to the American Academy of Colleges of Nursing's report on 2008-2009 Salaries of Instructional and Administrative Nursing Faculty in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing, the average ages of doctorally-prepared nurse faculty holding the ranks of professor, associate professor, and assistant professor were 59.1, 56.1, and 51.7 years, respectively. In order for the nursing profession to continue to provide knowledgeable, expert care for the citizens of Connecticut, sufficient nursing faculty must be educationally prepared to teach and guide.

Connecticut Nurses' Association (CNA) supports efforts to enhance and reinforce the growth of well-educated nurses in Connecticut. CNA also encourages the enhancement of educational programs that achieve ongoing benefit for the nursing profession overall. CNA has always focused energies on the dire need for well-prepared nursing faculty to assume the roles that will soon be vacated by an aging nursing professoriate.

Because the Connecticut State University System's proposal meets the strategic initiatives of CNA to reinforce the viability of the nursing profession, Connecticut Nurses' Association gives support to the Connecticut State University System for the development of a Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) program.

Best Regards,

andet

Carole Bergeron, RN, PhD

Executive Director

Connecticut Nurses' Association



May 12, 2009

Louise H. Feroe, PhD Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Connecticut State University System 39 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105-2337

Dear Dr. Feroe:

As the voice for nursing education, the National League for Nursing (NLN) promotes excellence in nursing education to build a strong and diverse nursing workforce. The NLN represents more than 30,000 nurse educators from all types of nursing education programs, including LPN, diploma, associate degree, and baccalaureate and higher degree. This letter is written to support our colleagues at Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University who have proposed a doctor of education (EdD) program for nursing education.

For the past decade the NLN has asserted that the nurse educator role requires specialized preparation and that it is essential that nurse educators, who provide leadership in nursing education, must be closely involved in the conduct of pedagogical research and contribute to the ongoing development of the science of nursing education. In fact the NLN views nursing education as a specialty area of practice and recognizes the advanced specialty role of the academic nurse educator. By placing the focus of research on questions related to student learning, new pedagogies, graduate competencies, program outcomes, innovative clinical teaching models, and recruitment and retention strategies, the NLN has sought to inspire a renewed interest in pedagogical research and give the science of nursing education increased visibility.

The NLN recognizes the EdD as a discipline-based doctorate that prepares the student for academic, administrative, clinical or research positions in education. We fully acknowledge that the EdD is a terminal degree that is research-based and demands the same level of academic rigor as other doctorates. At most colleges and universities in the United States that offer doctorates in education, the college or university chooses to offer an EdD, a PhD in education, or both. Certainly several of the top schools of education in the United States only offer their doctorates in education as EdDs (e.g., Teachers College/Columbia University, Harvard University, George Washington University, etc.), whereas other top schools of education only offer their doctorates in education as PhDs (Stanford University, University of Michigan, etc.). Nursing faculty graduating from these institutions, and like universities, currently teach the practice of nursing at all levels of nursing education, including pre-licensure, master's, and doctoral education. In fact, two of the most recent presidents of the NLN have doctoral degrees in nursing education from Teachers College; additionally a significant number of our colleagues at the NLN who manage the development of

standards for excellence in nursing education, as well as design research studies to evaluate national pedagogical trends and issues, have EdD degrees as their terminal research doctorates.

The NLN firmly believes that nurse faculty with doctoral degrees in nursing education are qualified to teach advanced practice nursing skills. Nurse educators who pursue doctoral degrees come to their studies in nursing education with a master's degree in nursing that emphasizes advanced preparation and specialized knowledge in one identified area of nursing practice. The doctoral degree in nursing education focuses on pedagogical inquiry and competencies relative to the specialized role of nurse educator and does not devalue clinical competency on an advanced practice level.

It is for these reasons that the NLN clearly and firmly supports the installation of an EdD program to increase the number of nurse educators and to address the nursing shortage. If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact us at 212-812-0301.

Sincerely,

Elaine Tagliareni, EdD, RN

President

Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN

Chief Executive Officer

Connecticut League for Nursing

51 North Main Street, Suite 3D • Southington, CT 06489 Phone: 860-276-9621 • Fax 860-276-8798 • www.ctlfn.org

December 1, 2009

Cesarina Thompson, PhD, RN Assistant to the Dean School of Health & Human Services and Professor, Department of Nursing Southern Connecticut State University 501 Crescent Street New Haven, CT 06511

Dear Dr. Thompson,

I am writing on behalf of the Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN), to attest to our support for Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) to develop an EdD in Nursing Education Program to prepare nurses for academic faculty roles.

The CLN has authored several statewide reports over the past 3 years highlighting the critical shortage of nurse faculty and has determined that this is the primary factor restricting the expansion of our nursing program throughout the state. It is predicted that Connecticut will experience a shortfall of 22,000 registered nurses by 2020 (HRSA 2004), and without expanding the number of nursing faculty that will allow increased enrollment in our nursing programs, Connecticut will not be able to meet the employer demand for registered nurses.

For years, Connecticut schools have denied enrollment of qualified students into both the Associate and Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Programs. It was documented that 1,643 qualified applicants were denied admission in 2005 (CLN, Enhancing the Education and Supply of Nurses in Connecticut: *Report and Recommendations*-October 2005). National League for Nursing (NLN) collects and disseminates information on all types of nursing education programs and reported that 88,000 qualified applicants were turned away due to lack of faculty (NLN, 2006).

After the 2005 CLN study, Connecticut did expand nursing enrollments 5% from 2006 to 2007, yet the applicant pool grew 6% at that very same time resulting in approximately the same number of denied admission to our nursing programs. The growing nurse faculty shortage in Connecticut precludes further expansion of our school enrollments.

The CLN also determined in 2005 that a significant percentage (23%) of Connecticut's nursing faculty plans to retire by 2010 leaving a significant void of nursing faculty. Therefore, there is a critical need for more doctoral prepared faculty who are qualified to teach not only in entry level nursing programs, but in graduate programs that prepare future nurse leaders in education and practice to help replenish the nurse educator pipeline.

The Connecticut League for Nursing strongly recommends that federal funds be allocated to develop the EdD in Nursing Education Program proposed by the two campuses of the Connecticut State University

System: Southern CT State University and Western CT State University. The funding will have a significant statewide and regional impact on nursing education.

With increased capacity to educate nurses at the doctoral level, Connecticut will benefit by (1) increasing the number of nursing faculty, (2) replacing current faculty that retire,

(3) increasing enrollments within our nursing programs, and (4) insuring the availability of qualified registered nurses to fill employment needs across the continuum of care to provide exceptional healthcare to the residents of Connecticut.

Should you need any further information, please contact me at 860-276-9621.

Sincerely,

Marcia B. Proto, MEd, CAS

Co-Executive Director

The Connecticut League for Nursing



Dr. David G. Carter, Chancellor Connecticut State University System 39 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105-2337

Dear Dr. Carter:

I have been advised by Dr. Cesarina Thompson of Southern Connecticut University that she is planning an EdD program for Nurse Educators. We at The University of Alabama have had such a program for the last two years and have just admitted a new cohort of 28 students for fall 2009. Our program is a joint effort between the College of Education and the College of Nursing and is intended for nurses who are either nurse educators or plan to be nurse educators in the future. These students come to The University of Alabama with a masters in nursing, many of them in advanced practice specialties. Our curriculum consists of courses taught by nursing faculty and courses taught by education faculty and some that are jointly taught. We believe that this program provides a unique opportunity for nurses who want to be nurse educators to get the sound educational foundation needed to be excellent faculty. The students in the program are typically those who have a passion for nursing education and we are pleased to report that they are very satisfied with the program. Since your system is considering such a program, I wanted to provide you with this information at the request of Dr. Thompson. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about our EdD for Nurse Educator's program.

Sincerely,

Sara E. Barger, DPA, RN, FAA Dean and Professor

plp

c: Cesarina Thompson



Russell Hall Box 870358 Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0358 (205) 348-6639 FAX (205) 348-5559 http://nursing.ua.edu

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Phone: (860) 738-6300

www.nwcc.commnet.edu

November 30, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The proposal to create a new Doctorate in Nursing Education program is very exciting. As we are all aware, one of the most critical barriers in educating 'new' nurses is the unavailability of appropriately prepared nursing educators. Recent data released by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing [AACN] indicates that less than half of all qualified applicants to entry-level baccalaureate nursing programs [50,000 applicants] were accepted. In addition, 6,000 applicants to master's and doctoral degree programs were denied admission. Connecticut specific data indicates that approximately fifty percent of nursing faculty is expected to retire within the next four to five years. In addition, over five hundred potential students were denied admission due to lack of faculty and/or clinical capacity.

The proposal for a collaborative public education doctoral program in nursing education will have a significant and positive effect on nursing education in Connecticut.

Irrespective of the debate on entry level, the need for qualified faculty is critical. In addition, it is of paramount importance to prepare nurses at the master's and doctoral levels to provide quality nursing care and case management in an increasingly complex and demanding health care environment.

I applaud this collaborative initiative between Southern and Western in this austere budget climate. We all know that these types of partnerships serve both students and the citizens of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc.

Chair, Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing

Patricia C. Brifford D.U.S.



750 Chase Parkway • Waterbury, CT 06708 www.nvcc.commnet.edu

January 15, 2010

Dr. David G. Carter Chancellor Connecticut State University System 39 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105-2337 JAN 2 0 2010

Office of the Chancellor Connecticut State University System

Dear Dr. Carter:

I am writing this letter of support for the Connecticut State University System's initiative to address the shortage of nurse educators within the state. Recent data released by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) indicates that our State of Connecticut will be faced with approximately fifty percent of nursing faculty retiring within the next four to five years.

The collaborative proposal for the Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) between Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University clearly addresses this shortage and will have a significant and positive effect on nursing education in Connecticut. This doctoral program seeks to prepare individuals specifically for the demands of the academic faculty role. The proposed program builds on the successful track record of two CSU institutions for preparing nurse educators.

I strong support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.

President

DCD/rt





College of Nursing and Health Professions In the tradition of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and Hahnemann Medical College

November 18, 2009

Gloria F. Donnelly, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor

Dr. Cesarina Thompson
Southern CT State University
Dr. Karen Crouse
Western CT State University
Connecticut State University System
School of Graduate Studies
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06515

Dear Dr. Thompson and Dr. Crouse:

It is my pleasure to offer comment on the Southern CT State University and the Western CT State University proposal to offer a joint program leading to the Ed.D. in Nursing Education. The grid on page 13 outlining Doctoral Education Options for Nurses in Connecticut is an exemplar of the national dilemma in higher nursing education; the DNP is practice focused and the Ph.D. is research focused. Further, enrollment is growing in DNP Programs and simultaneously shrinking in Ph.D. Programs. While there are Ph.D. Programs in Nursing that focus exclusively in Nursing Education, like Villanova University's Program, most Ph.D. Programs are preparing the next generation of nurse scientists oriented to practice and clinical issues, not to education.

The proposed program is well conceived and provides a reasonable alternative to the DNP and the Ph.D. Most importantly, it is designed to recruit experienced clinicians who will focus on the knowledge, skills base and questions related to preparing the next generation of nurses. It was particularly heartening to see among the courses in the Specialization component of the program, a course on faculty role and one with an emphasis on classroom and clinical teaching. In fact, the committee might consider even more emphasis on clinical teaching since there where nursing students "really learn" the role.

There is little or no data to guide us on what degree is most appropriate for a nurse aspiring to the professoriate. I, therefore, applaud the efforts of these two universities to collaborate on a program that will assist in ultimately meeting the nurse workforce needs in Connecticut by preparing nurse faculty for 2 and 4 year programs. My very best wishes for the committee's success in gaining approval for the program.

Sincerely.

Alfred Streetly Gloria F. Donnelly, Ph.D., RN, FAAN

Dean and Professor

Three Rivers Community College
574 New London Turnpike
Norwich, CT 06360
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Dr Linda K. Rinker Provost and Vice President Academic Affairs WCSU 182 White Street UH 322 Danbury, Ct. 06810

Dr Selase W. Williams Provost and Vice President Academic Affairs SCSU 501 Crescent Street New Haven, Ct. 06525

January 26, 2010

Dear Drs. Rinker and Williams,

It is with great enthusiasm, as a nurse educator, that I contact you to commend your efforts in initiating the development of a joint Doctorate in Nursing Education between SCSU and WCSU. Your recognition of the crisis facing nursing with regard to the nursing/nursing faculty shortage is noteworthy. Many reputable studies locally and nationwide, now forecast that this critical shortage will only become more severe between now and 2020. HRSA predicts a shortfall of over a million nurses by this end date. We have so little time to prepare much needed nurse educators at the highest possible level. My own clinical and nurse educator practice spans a period of over 40 years. Personally and professionally, I am dedicated to the vision that nurses despite their entry level preparation, be able to transition seamlessly through all levels of nursing education, culminating at a Doctorate. As we move forward, we do not want nurses to be the least educationally prepared members in the health care team. I am inspired by the fact that Connecticut is moving forward in this educational endeavor. As you know, our state is in drastic need of this level of education for nurses. I am a believer in life-long learning and view this as an opportunity for myself and so many colleagues. We need to plant this seed in our novice nurses so they aspire to Doctoral preparation as a personal and professional goal. As a member of the Connecticut League for Nursing (CLC) Council of Deans and Directors, I am aware that in 2004 and again in 2008, absence of this type of program was recognized as the **primary barrier** to expansion of our

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state's nursing programs. The lack of qualified faculty equates to fewer students admitted to nursing programs; a real, catch 22. It is well known, to us all, that these difficult economic times in our state will most definitely worsen this already depleted pool. The Council also recognizes the dire need to attract highly qualified nurses who are in clinical practice and who have a desire to teach within the discipline of nursing. These nurses must be prepared for the rigors of teaching and academia. While highly qualified as clinicians, nursing education is and entirely different practice arena. Certainly, different knowledge and skills are needed in transferring from one specialty area in nursing, to another. The prospect of nurses finding this educational opportunity being offered in a geographically acceptable area with distance learning potential is exciting. It will allow nurses to engage in higher education here in our own state. This certainly makes pursuit of this degree more attractive and adds an enticing incentive.

I have been a nurse educator in 5 states over many years and can attest to the fact that other states around the country have surpassed us in developing Doctoral Programs with this focus. It is exciting to know that we are now on the threshold of such a program here in Connecticut.

In closing, I applaud you for your vision and for this contribution to the profession I have been devoted to for so long.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Ellen T. Freeman MS, RN, CNE

Director of Nursing and Allied Health

Eller T. Freemon MS, RN, CNE

Three Rivers Community College

Norwich, Ct.

06360

Connecticut Community Colleges

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900 LAFAYETTE BOULEVARD • BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT 06604 203-332-5222 • 203-332-5247 FAX www.hcc.commnet.edu

December 11, 2009

The Honorable Christopher Dodd, US Senator United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Dodd:

On behalf of Housatonic Community College, I would like to express our support of the Connecticut State University System's (CSUS) effort to secure funding to address the shortage of nursing faculty through a Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) program. The initiative complements previous congressionally supported work to grow baccalaureate and master-level programs in nursing education.

Available data for Connecticut projects that 15 percent of all nursing faculty will retire in three to five years. The initiative aims to prepare up to 75 new faculty over ten years to teach nursing students and help offset the anticipated shortfall of over 20,000 nurses in 2020. One of the major obstacles to expanding the workforce of trained nurses is the shortage of nurse educators. CSUS seeks support to prepare nurse educators to teach in universities and community colleges by requesting \$750,000 through the 2010 Labor-HHS-Education Senate Appropriations Bill, Health Resources Services Administration or Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education Account.

HCC appreciates your support and assistance in helping CSUS meet the goal of preparing nurse educators to teach at nursing schools throughout the state. The new nursing faculty will help ensure that there will be sufficient well-trained, highly-skilled, and motivated nursing staff to continue to provide the quality of medical care the HCC and other hospitals in the state give to their patients.

As one of the twelve community colleges in the state of Connecticut, HCC strongly supports all initiatives to address the shortage of nurses in the state.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this request.

7. Dlineshi

Sincerely,

Anita T. Gliniecki

President



Office of the President Anita T. Gliniecki

HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE

900 LAFAYETTE BOULEVARD • BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT 06604 203-332-5222 • 203-332-5247 FAX www.hcc.commnet.edu

JAN 0 8 2009

Academic Affairs Office
Southern Corn. State Univ.

December 11, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Housatonic Community College, I would like to express our support of the Connecticut State University System's (CSUS) effort to secure funding to address the shortage of nursing faculty through a Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) program. The initiative complements previous congressionally supported work to grow baccalaureate and master-level programs in nursing education.

Available data for Connecticut projects that 15 percent of all nursing faculty will retire in three to five years. The initiative aims to prepare up to 75 new faculty over ten years to teach nursing students and help offset the anticipated shortfall of over 20,000 nurses in 2020. One of the major obstacles to expanding the workforce of trained nurses is the shortage of nurse educators. CSUS seeks support to prepare nurse educators to teach in universities and community colleges by requesting \$750,000 through the 2010 Labor-HHS-Education Senate Appropriations Bill, Health Resources Services Administration or Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education Account.

HCC appreciates your support and assistance in helping CSUS meet the goal of preparing nurse educators to teach at nursing schools throughout the state. The new nursing faculty will help ensure that there will be sufficient well-trained, highly-skilled, and motivated nursing staff to continue to provide the quality of medical care the HCC and other hospitals in the state give to their patients.

As one of the twelve community colleges in the state of Connecticut, HCC strongly supports all initiatives to address the shortage of nurses in the state.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this request.

Sincerely,

Anita T. Gliniecki President



750 Chase Parkway • Waterbury, CT 06708 www.nvcc.commnet.edu

November 25, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The Connecticut Community College Nursing Program at Naugatuck Valley Community College is pleased to support the "Connecticut State University System Initiative to Address the Shortage of Nursing Faculty". The proposed collaborative doctoral program which leads to a Doctorate in Nursing Education will increase the number of nurse faculty available throughout the state. A shortage of academically prepared nurse educators is one of the critical factors limiting capacity in schools of nursing. In order to educate a sufficient number of registered nurses to meet the nursing shortage, schools of nursing must have individuals prepared for faculty roles as well as clinical experts.

The collaborative doctoral program between Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University will provide masters prepared faculty at the community colleges an opportunity to further their education and meet their career goals within the region. I strongly support this initiative.

Sincerely,

Mitch J. Holmes

Acting Dean of Academic Affairs



RECEIVED

DEC 2 8 2009

GRADUATE OFFICE

December 22, 2009

Cesarina Thompson Southern Connecticut State University Aide to the Dean, School of Graduate Studies 501 Crescent St. New Haven 06515

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am writing to enthusiastically support the Connecticut State University's proposal to address the shortage of nursing faculty through a Doctorate of Education Program in Nursing Education. As President of Gateway Community College, on of five two-year public institutions in Connecticut currently offering a nursing program for students, I am particularly aware of the need to support the development of more nursing educators across the state and the region. The proposal for two universities, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) and Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), to develop a Doctorate in Education Program in Nursing Education is an initiative that compliments and strengthens two-year institutions' efforts to train more nurses, and will provide greater access for students with two-year degrees to complete a four-year degree at one of our public state universities.

The national and regional data on the nursing shortage urges all of us to plan for the future and address this critical problem. Within the coming decades, Connecticut will face a shortage of almost 20,000 nurses. A key factor in addressing this crisis is the absence of a sufficient number of nursing educators to train a larger number of nursing professionals. Here at Gateway Community College, over 70 nursing students will graduate in the coming year and many of them will be seeking places in four-year institutions to complete a baccalaureate degree. However, few of them will gain acceptance, not because they do not meet the entrance criteria, but because, with the current number of nurse educators in four-year institutions, there are only a limited number of students who can be admitted at one time. The proposed SCSU/WCSU Ed. D. in Nursing Education plans to graduate as many as 75 new nurse educators in the next decade, opening up many more seats to qualified nursing students.

Gateway Community College wholeheartedly supports the establishment of the joint Ed. D. in Nursing Education. Given the existing nursing programs at SCSU and WCSU, they are well-qualified to undertake this initiative on behalf of the state of Connecticut. The sharing of resources between two state universities, at a time of tight fiscal constraints, is an intelligent approach to addressing the tremendous need for more nurses without dramatically increasing administrative costs. In addition, launching a program whose sole purpose is to prepare nurse educators will ensure that every dollar spent will be focused on addressing the critical shortage of nurses in Connecticut and nationally.

Sincerely.

Dorsey L. Kendrick, Ph.D.

President

Open Doors



Open Minds

Office of the President (203) 857-7003 FAX (203) 857-7394

JAN 20 2010

January 14, 2010

Dr. David G. Carter Chancellor Connecticut State University System 39 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105-2337

Dear Dr. Carter:

I am writing this letter of support for the Connecticut State University Systems' initiative to address the shortage of nurse educators within the state. Recent data released by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) indicates that the State of Connecticut will be faced with approximately fifty percent of nursing faculty retiring within the next four to five years.

The collaborative proposal for the Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) between Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University clearly addresses this shortage and will have a significant and positive effect on nursing education in Connecticut. This doctoral program seeks to prepare individuals specifically for the demands of the academic faculty role. The proposed program builds on the successful track record of two CSU institutions for preparing nurse educators.

I strongly support his proposal.

David L. Levinson, Ph.D.

President

Sincerely yours



November 23, 2009

The Honorable Christopher Dodd U.S. Senator 30 Lewis Street, Suite 101 Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Senator Dodd,

I write in enthusiastic support of the Connecticut State University System's proposal to address the serious shortage of nursing faculty. This proposal requests an additional \$500,000 to the \$250,000 currently written into the FY2010 Labor-HHS-Education Senate Appropriations bill to support the CSUS initiative to create a Doctorate (Ed.D.) in Nursing Education. Increasing the number of doctorally prepared nursing faculty for the State of Connecticut is a critical element in our ability to increase our capacity for nursing education. This program is a collaboration between Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University, complementing previous collaborative efforts between these two institutions that have contributed to expanding capacity in nursing education programs.

The extent of the nursing shortage in Connecticut continues to be of very serious concern. At current rates of graduation, a shortfall of about 22,000 registered nurses is anticipated by the year 2020. The challenge is compounded by the fact that Connecticut's general population is aging, and attending to the needs of that population will require higher levels of nursing preparation. At the same time, the practice of the nursing profession is becoming more technologically complex, requiring higher levels of nursing preparation than in the past. Although nursing programs in Connecticut have expanded their enrollments in recent years, the number of qualified applicants who are denied admission continue to increase due to our lack of capacity.

A critical factor contributing to this lack of capacity is the shortage of nursing faculty. The current population of nursing faculty, particularly those prepared at the doctoral level, is aging. In Connecticut, 15% of all faculty in nursing programs are expected to retire within the next 3 to 5 years. Thus, it is essential that we educate more individuals to assume nursing faculty roles. This new program is projected to provide a net gain of about 16 new faculty per year by 2014, enabling Connecticut nursing programs to collectively admit over 250 additional students per year.

The proposed Ed.D. in Nursing Education will be the only one of its kind in Connecticut and one of very few programs across the country. Moreover, this timely and unique doctoral program represents the first truly collaborative degree between Connecticut universities, including a joint curriculum, joint degree granting and joint administrative oversight. The proposed program builds on the successful track record of two CSUS institutions for preparing educators and nurses at all levels, maximizes existing resources and strengthens the established partnership between the two universities. The additional funding requested will allow us to expedite the development of this program and result in improved health care services to the citizens of Connecticut.

As always, we are most appreciative of your continued support for higher education and the preparation of personnel in critical fields such as health care.

Sincerely

Cheryl J. Norton

President

CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE NURSING PROGRAM

Connecticut Community Colleges Board of Trustees 61 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105 860-244-7779 www.commnet.edu Connecticut Community Colleges

Education That Works For a Lifetime

Dr. Linda K. Rinker Provost and Vice President Academic Affairs WCSU 182 White Street UH 322 Danbury, CT 06810

Dr. Selase W. Williams Provost and Vice President Academic Affairs SCSU 501 Crescent Street New Haven, CT 06525

March 10, 2009

Dear Drs. Rinker and Williams,

I applaud your efforts to initiate the development of a joint Doctorate in Nursing Education program as a collaborative between SCSU and WCSU. Your response to the shortage of nursing faculty that is at crisis level and only promises to worsen over the next decade is commendable.

As a graduate of Southern's undergraduate nursing program, I am honored to be invited to serve on the Advisory Board in support of the planning, implementation and evaluation of this program. As a nurse for close to thirty years, dedicated to clinical and academic nursing education for greater than twenty five years, I am excited for our state which is in drastic need of this level of education for nurses. Your program promises to be the premier program in Connecticut for the doctoral preparation of nursing faculty to staff our nursing programs.

As you are aware the Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN) Council of Deans and Directors has identified the primary barrier to expansion of our state's nursing programs as the lack of availability of qualified faculty since 2004. In late 2008, the Council refreshed data collection and has reaffirmed this barrier; now seemingly further magnified by the impending retirement of one out of five faculty over the next three to five years at close to half of Connecticut's schools of nursing. Due to the failing economic conditions in our state, retirement incentive programs within many of our academic institutions is almost guaranteed to worsen this already volatile situation.

The Council has also identified that the need to attract experienced nurses that possess the desire to teach while supporting their educational advancement is great; the immediate need to assist these expert practitioners to develop as nurse educators exists and the need to make available more opportunity for nurses to engage in higher education that will prepare them to teach is clear.

Connecticut is overdue for a program that will specifically address the preparation of nursing faculty at the doctoral level. For me and many of my colleagues this represents an opportunity to continue to enhance and validate our expertise as nurse educators. For nurses who aspire to a career as nurse educators this represents an opportunity to begin to prepare for this rewarding professional advancement.

Thank you for providing this opportunity for nurses and nurse educators in Connecticut. I look forward to being a part of this effort as a member of the Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

Birduni Lerfieto MS, APRH SC

Linda M. Perfetto MS, APRN, BC Nurse Administrator Connecticut Community College Nursing Program Connecticut Community Colleges, Board of Trustees 61 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105-2345

Phone: 860-244-7779 lperfetto@commnet.edu



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT JAMES W. SCHMOTTER, PH.D.

November 9, 2009

U. S. Senator Christopher J. Dodd30 Lewis Street, Suite 101Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Senator Dodd:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Connecticut State University System's proposal for additional funding to address the critical shortage of nursing faculty. This proposal requests an additional \$500,000 to the \$250,000 currently written into the FY2010 Labor-HHS-Education Senate Appropriations bill to support a statewide initiative to attack today's nursing faculty shortage through the creation of a Doctorate of Education in Nursing program developed and delivered jointly by Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University.

The dimension and scope of the nursing shortage in Connecticut are dramatic. Over the next decade a shortage of 22,000 registered nurses is projected. While institutions of higher education have increased enrollments, a shortage of qualified nursing faculty limits our ability to respond effectively to this demand. In 2007, for example, 472 qualified applicants to baccalaureate nursing programs in the state could not be accommodated. And that gap has continued to widen in the two years since.

Faculty and academic leadership at Southern and Western have worked collaboratively and creatively to develop a doctoral program that will produce at least 16 new nursing faculty per year and so afford educational programming to well over 1,000 additional students by 2020. The proposed program is a model of an efficient and effective pooling of resources (intellectual, human and financial) by two universities to address an important workforce shortage. Additional federal support to speed its development will prove a wise and beneficial investment for the people of Connecticut.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support of both higher education and the development of tomorrow's workforce in the critical field of health services.

Warmest regards,

James W. Schmotter

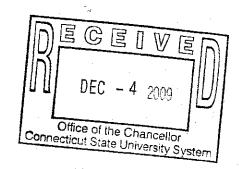


STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE FOR WORKFORCE COMPETITIVENESS

December 1, 2009

Chancellor David G. Carter, PhD Connecticut State University System 39 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105-2337



Dear Dr. Carter:

On behalf of the Allied Health Workforce Policy Board, I am pleased to support the Connecticut State University System (CSUS) initiative to address the shortage of nursing faculty statewide and regionally through a Doctorate in Nursing Education (Ed.D.) program. The proposed CSUS program is a collaborative effort between two CSU institutions: Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) and Western Connecticut State University (WCSU). This program complements previous collaborative efforts between these two institutions that have contributed to expanding capacity in nursing education programs.

The Connecticut Allied Health Workforce Policy Board was established in Public Act 04-220 (An Act Concerning Allied Health Workforce Needs) to conduct research and planning activities related to the allied health workforce. The Board began meeting in March 2005 and throughout its tenure, the Board has met regularly to discuss current initiatives in allied health in the state, gaps in workforce data, issues related to educational programming, and recruitment and retention of the workforce, as well as researching and developing solutions to allied health workforce shortages. The nursing shortage has been a major focus of the Board's work including the commissioning of a report on allied health faculty in the state.

Data from the Connecticut Department of Labor (CT DOL) indicates that the total estimate of employment levels for health-related occupations will have a 16.1% increase from 2006 to 2016. The allied health occupation with the highest employment level is registered nurses (RNs) with 32,840 jobs in 2006, and a projected 38,560 jobs for 2016 (17.4% increase). The Connecticut Department of Labor projects that the state will need to average 1,114 new registered nurses each year through 2016 to fill expected job openings.

Shortages in these occupations are not unique to Connecticut. According to the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA), the adequacy of nurse supply varies geographically throughout the nation, with a general consensus that at the national level currently a moderate shortage of registered nurses (RN) exists. The findings of their analysis suggests that the current RN shortage will continue to grow in severity during the next 20 years if current trends prevail and that some states face a more severe shortage than do others. The growth and aging of the population, along with the nation's continued demand for the highest quality of care, will create a surging demand for the services of RNs over the coming two decades.

Page 2 December 1, 2009 Chancellor David G. Carter, PhD

The AHWPB's deliberations have found that a key issue facing the future of the health care workforce is an insufficient supply of college faculty to provide academic and clinical training. The current faculty workforce is aging and few individuals are pursuing teaching degrees in nursing and allied health.

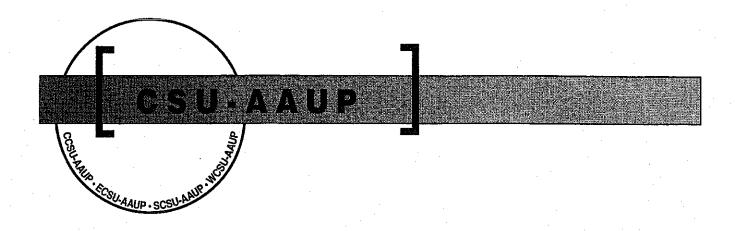
Nearly every Connecticut degree program within nursing and allied health is vulnerable to the current, or anticipated, faculty shortage problem. In fact, colleges and universities sought out 78 waivers for faculty from the Nurse Board of Examiners between 2006 and 2008. Where sufficient faculty exists, it is recognized that securing replacements will be difficult. It is therefore in the best interests of the state to create a proactive plan, such as the one proposed by CSUS, to develop instructor talent.

This doctoral program seeks to prepare individuals specifically for the demands of the academic faculty role. Graduates of the program would be qualified to assume faculty positions in two-year and four-year nursing programs in the state. The proposed program builds on the successful track record of two CSU institutions for preparing educators and nurses for entry level practice and advanced roles. Moreover, the program seeks to address the nurse educator shortage by maximizing existing resources and strengthening the established partnership between the two universities.

We eagerly await the outcome of the CSUS application process and look forward to the new faculty to help train the next generation of Connecticut nurses.

Sincerely,

Many Jan Lloully
Mary Ann Hanley



February 8, 2010

Mary Ann Handley, Senate Chair Roberta Willis, House Chair Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

Dear Committee Members:

My name is David Walsh, and I am president of the Connecticut State University chapter of the American Association of University Professors. Our union represents 3200 teaching faculty members, librarians, coaches and counselor at CCSU, ECSU, SCSU and WCSU universities. I am here today to urge passage of Raised Bill 5024 which would authorize Connecticut State University to offer an Ed.D Program in Nursing Education, not solely for the purpose of preparing personnel for the public schools of the state.

At a time, when the attention of the General Assembly and the people of Connecticut are focused on the budget deficit and acute concern for the future of the state, the value of public higher education is most evident. As the members of the General Assembly know better than anyone, the level of concern for state spending and for the economic future of Connecticut is at an all time high. We in the AAUP have always believed that public higher education must be a major part of the solution to the state's economic difficulties. Accessible education, which for most families means public higher education, is the crucial vehicle for preparing our citizens for successful professional careers that will meet the workforce needs of the state now and in the future. We also believe that in these times of budgetary crisis, it is the educational product that counts, not the particular unit of higher education that offers it, as long as the educational product is of high quality.

The CSU proposal you have before you today, will benefit the state's general population as well as members of the nursing profession for whom it will be made available. It is based on the successful model adopted by the Teacher's College at Columbia University. We ask the General Assembly to consider the following points:

- 1. The shortage of qualified nurses statewide and at the national level has been repeatedly documented. By preparing current nurses with the training necessary to teach future nurses at the university level, a positive step will have been taken to alleviate the nursing shortage in Connecticut.
- 2. An Ed.D. in Nursing Education at CSU can be created and operated without the need for additional state funding. The program will utilize existing faculty, technology and space at SCSU and WCSU. As the program develops up to eight additional faculty lines will be added by 2014, if justified by increased enrollment and accompanying tuition and fees.
- 3. The program will be especially useful to nurses currently working in the field since it will utilize a nontraditional course delivery format, including online courses, summer, and weekend intensive courses and the availability of program directors and faculty members on a year round basis.
- 4. This program will build upon a solid foundation established at SCSU and WCSU at the undergraduate level and the master's levels in nursing training.

It is essential in this time of budgetary crisis that the state utilize every resource in the public sector to help to prepare the state's citizenry for high paying and sociably valuable jobs of the future. Raised Bill 5024 does exactly this.

Sincerely,

David F. Walsh

CSU-AAUP President



STATE UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE FACULTY

185 Main Street - Suite 208 - New Britain, CT 06051

tel: 860-832-3785 » fax: 860-832-3786

February 4, 2010

Members of the Higher Education Committee,

This letter is written in support of HB 05024 which proposes that the Connecticut State University be empowered to off an Ed. D. in Nursing Education. We believe the bill is worthy of the support of the General Assembly as it will address the critical, ongoing shortage of nurses and nurse educators can be reversed and the citizens of Connecticut assured that an ample staff of nursing professionals can be provided to the health care system. The Connecticut State University currently offers nursing programs at Southern and Western Connecticut State Universities that are constantly in demand by prospective students but which are constrained by the limited number of seats that are available. Part of the challenge is the shortage of qualified nursing faculty available to allow the expansion of these and programs like them across the country.

A review of the federal data on the supply and demand for nurses shows that, if present nursing programs are not expanded, that the shortfall in graduates needed in health services will exceed 20,000 by the year 2020. As Connecticut's population ages it seems clear that the demand for nursing professionals will continue to grow as well. At this time the lack of capacity in nursing programs in the state has caused the denial of admission of nearly 500 qualified students, a circumstance that does not bode well for the future.

The need to focus specifically on nursing educators is in response to the national statistics that demonstrate that the ability of schools of nursing is severely limited by the insufficient number of nursing faculty, specifically trained to perform as nurse educators. CSUS has a proven track record of developing and executing doctoral degree programs that address specific and urgent workforce needs. Given the relatively small numbers of faculty required for the program as designed as well as the fact that the nursing programs at Southern and Western can respond quickly I believe that the bill deserves the support of the Higher Education Committee. The program is needed to allow the preparation of additional nursing graduates, the teaching sites are available and the need in the health care sector is apparent.

We urge your full support for this most important initiative. Thank you.

lames LoMonaco

President, AFSCME Local 2836 CSUS